

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE.

Wednesday, July 2, 2008.

Met according to adjournment, at eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Eternal God, we place our trust and confidence in You, Your ways and Your guidelines for achieving successful and meaningful daily living. We believe that Your assistance enables us to reach our personal and political goals and to keep our priorities and principles in clear focus. We, as a people and a nation, are preparing to observe and celebrate Independence Day and are grateful for the many material, human and spiritual blessings which we enjoy as citizens. On Independence Day, we reflect on the creative leadership, the courage, the wisdom and the personal sacrifices of the founders of this nation. We are especially thankful, as citizens, for our personal, political and religious freedoms which allows us to disagree openly in a respectful and civil manner on public policy and controversial and emotional societal issues.

Prayer.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Pledge of
allegiance.

Papers from the Senate.

Bills

Directing the Department of Highways to erect and maintain certain signs (Senate, No. 2069) (on a petition);

Highway
Department.

Relative to Rutland Heights State Hospital (Senate, No. 2353, amended by inserting before the enacting clause the following 4 sections:

Rutland Heights
State Hospital.

“SECTION 1. Section 2 of chapter 28 of the acts of 1996 is hereby amended by striking out, in item 2000-6966, the figure ‘\$65,000,000’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:—\$150,000,000.

SECTION 2. Section 2A of said chapter 28 of the acts of 1996 is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. Section 3 of said chapter 28 of the acts of 1996 is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 4 and 5, the words ‘one hundred eighty-three million eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars’ and inserting in place thereof the following figure:—\$268,850,000.

SECTION 4. Sections 5 and 6 of said chapter 28 of the acts of 1996 are hereby repealed.”; and in section 1 (as printed), in line 17, by inserting after the figures “1,400,000” the following: “of said \$10,000,000”) (on a petition);

Belchertown,
sewer
easement.

Authorizing the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance to grant a sewer easement in certain land in the town of Belchertown (Senate, No. 2355, amended in section 1, by striking out the last sentence and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences: "To mitigate the impact of the conveyance on farmland, the town shall pay the full and fair market value of this easement, as determined by an independent appraisal, to The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Agricultural Resources, Mitigation Expendible Trust. The department of agricultural resources shall use the payment for this easement for the acquisition or renovation of farmland near the site of the easement as practicable.") (on a petition) [Local Approval Received];

Fitchburg, Wal-
lace Civic
Center.

Authorizing the city of Fitchburg to lease certain park land to the Wallace Civic Center and Planetarium (Senate, No. 2589) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received];

Nancy
Swanson,
retirement.

Directing the teachers' retirement board to include additional compensation in calculating the retirement allowance of Nancy Swanson (Senate, No. 2765) (on Senate bill No. 1431);

Water
protection.

Relative to water protection (Senate, No. 2776) (on Senate bill No. 2491);

John Adams
Courthouse,
safety.

Relative to safety at the John Adams Courthouse (Senate, No. 2777) (on Senate bill No. 2516);

Homeowners
insurance.

Relative to homeowners insurance (Senate, No. 2778, amended by striking section 9 and inserting in place thereof the following two sections:

"SECTION 9. Said chapter 175C is hereby further amended by adding the following section:—

Section 10. The association shall pay a dividend on homeowners insurance premiums for coastal properties occupied as primary residences having a Coverage A limit not greater than the median Coverage A for the territory in which the property is located. This dividend shall be paid in a year which is the third consecutive year in which there have been no hurricane-related losses in the territory and this dividend shall be a third of all hurricane loss premiums, less the cost of reinsurance purchased by the association. This dividend shall not be paid in a year whom such payment shall cause the association to realize a net loss for that year, and shall only be made in a year in which the association has purchased adequate reinsurance for hurricane losses, as determined by the commissioner. The possibility of a dividend shall not be considered by the commissioner in approving rates proposed by the association.

SECTION 9A. The Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriting Association shall not increase rates for the association homeowners insurance policies in large share territories before March 1, 2009.") (on Senate bill No. 2639); and

Higher
Education,
bond.

Promoting for the public higher education capital improvement needs of the Commonwealth (Senate, No. 2785) (on Senate bill No. 2779); and

Disabled
persons,
self
determination.

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by the Commissioner of Mental Retardation on a self-determination model for persons with disabilities (Senate, No. 2781) (on House bill No. 4525);

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 33, to the committee on Ways and Means.

Bills

Authorizing a change of use of certain land in the town of Leicester (Senate, No. 2689) (on a petition) [Local Approval Received]; and Relative to public health regionalization (Senate, No. 2784) (on Senate bill No. 2672);

Severally passed to be engrossed by the Senate, were read; and they were referred, under Rule 7A, to the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling.

Reports of Committees.

By Mr. Donato of Medford, for the committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, that the following matters be scheduled for consideration by the House:

House bills

Relative to health insurance premiums (House, No. 4689);

Relative to promoting supplemental insurance coverage (House, No. 4690);

Relative to the licensure of health plans (House, No. 4692);

Authorizing the town of Lincoln to establish a post employment health insurance trust fund (House, No. 4775) [Local Approval Received];

Authorizing the expansion of the Adams Fire District (House, No. 4845); and

The committee Bill relative to unpaid municipal fines (House, No. 4883);

Severally placed in the Orders of the Day for the next sitting for a second reading.

Engrossed Bills.

Engrossed bills

Establishing the Bristol County Commission on the status of women (see Senate, No. 1172); and

Authorizing the town of Sandwich to grant an additional license for the sale of all alcoholic beverages not to be drunk on the premises (see Senate, No. 2524);

(Which severally originated in the Senate);

Severally having been certified by the Clerk to be rightly and truly prepared for final passage, were passed to be enacted; and they were signed by the acting Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—

Ordered. That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet tomorrow at ten o'clock A.M.

Leicester, land.
Public health,
regionalization.

Health
insurance.
fi

fi
Lincoln.

Adams Fire
District.

Unpaid
municipal
fines.

Bills
enacted.

Next
sitting.

At thirteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. deMacedo of Plymouth (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet tomorrow at ten o'clock A.M.